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ITEM NO: 5 DATE: 4 JAN 74

SUBJECT: US ATTACHES OBSERVE UNUSUALLY LOW LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AT SOVIET AIRBORNE UNIT INSTALLATION

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US MILITARY ATTACHES OBSERVED A SOVIET AIRBORNE UNIT INSTALLATION AT BYAZAN ABOUT 200 MILES SOUTHEAST OF MOSCOW FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD ON JANUARY 3. THIS INSTALLATION HOUSES A REGIMENT OF THE 10TH GUARDS AIRBORNE DIVISION, WHICH IS HEADQUARTERED AT TULA.

OF THE THREE BARRACKS SEEN, ONLY ONE APPEARED TO BE OCCUPIED. THE OTHER TWO HAD FROSTED WINDOWS AND DISPLAYED NO NEW YEAR'S DECORATIONS. DURING THE PERIOD OF OBSERVATION, ONLY A FEW TROOPS AND NO EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLES WERE SEEN. THE ATTACHES

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ALSO BELIEVED THE PRESENCE OF AIRBORNE TROOPS IN THE TOWN OF RYAZAN WAS LOWER THAN USUAL AND THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE INSTALLATION WAS OCCUPIED ONLY BY HOUSEKEEPING ELEMENTS. IN SUMMARIZING THEIR REPORT, HOWEVER, THEY STATED THAT NO CONCLUSIONS COULD BE REACHED AS TO THE STATUS OF THE DIVISION.

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